United Nations A/HRC/31/NGO/31

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 February 2016

English only

Human Rights Council
Thirty-first session
Agenda item 7
Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Written statement* submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[05 February 2016]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.16-02273(E)

Please recycle

Punitive Techniques against Detained Jerusalem Children

The Israeli occupation government uses those following retaliatory techniques against Jerusalemite children:

1. Detained with Criminals

The occupation authorities detain the arrested Jerusalemite children with Jewish criminal detainees, killers and drug dealers which is considered a serious danger on them. According to that, Jerusalemite child (ObaidaAmer), 16 years old, had to make an indefinite hunger strike protesting against his transfer from Al-Masqoubia police station to "Ofek" civil prison, and in January 2014, and when the child refused to enter into the civil prison they force him despite his well, which makes him run to a hunger strike .

When they detain children in prisons with criminals of Hasharon, Ramla, and Ofek) this means that there is a real danger on their lives, where their rooms are very close to the children's rooms. And in many cases they are vulnerable to criminals' insults and abuse.

The human rights activist Amjad Abu Asab says: Jerusalemite child's suffering doesn't stop at his arrest ,but child suffers after his arrest from many psychological problems, hair loss, and psychological trauma caused by his detention conditions, and inability of his parents' protection. Also he suffers from involuntary urinatio.

He pointed out that the children's situation with Israeli criminals whether in Ofeck criminal prison in Natanya, or Hasharon prison, aims to turn them into criminals who get lectures from counsellors and psychologist as Israelis detainees.
He stressed that many Jerusalemites children went to the bad track after being released, they have different interests and attitudes and also they are mentally different, unfortunately some of them becomes a thief or drug addict, and some suffer from severe psychological crisis .

2. Home Confinement

The occupation can turn your beautiful and peaceful house into a prison. And the most compassion people may turn into your jailers against their well, which breaches family stability and force the child to hate it, this saying is true and not imagination.

Amjad Abu Asab the chairman of Prisoners Families Committee of Jerusalem showed" that home confinement is the worst thing happen to Jerusalemite children, where they are deprived from movement and going to their schools. Also this pressure increases their aggressiveness, lack of trust in others and isolation from society. Noting that their detention conditions cause psychological problems which leads involuntary urination and hair loss.

The occupation uses home confinement policy a lot against children in Jerusalem , where they imposed over 55 home confinement on children and women during the year 2013 in Jerusalem , then during 2014, they imposed home confinement for 60 citizen in Jerusalem most of them are children . This policy has increased during 2015, where they imposed 65 ordered of home confinement on children only in Jerusalem.

Home confinement is divides into two types: The first one imposes on child to stay in his house and not getting out from it even to school. While the other type imposes confinement on him in his relatives houses away from his house and his neighbourhood. This one is more difficult than the other, where it dispersed family and imposes on the child a new life with people he is not familiar like his parents. Which causes lots of psychological, and social problems, especially if this home confinements for a long time.

Home confinement imposed by the occupation authorities on children affects them badly even after this house arrest, where it destroys them psychologically, because those children supposed to live with their life freely, playing with their peers outside, and complete their education normally. But this can't happen during the child's home confinement which

restricts his freedom and makes him complaining all the time, tense and hostile because he thinks that they are his jailers, where sometimes parents are forced to prevent him getting out fearing of other punishment the Israeli authorities can impose.

The Israeli police has imposed home confinement on "SaifGhalebRowadi, 11 years, at his house is Silwan until 30/6/2013,after detain him for hours in Salah Eldin police station. Where the child was arrested during his return from school to his house.

Furthermore, the occupation authorities has imposed home confinement on "Moslem MosaOdah" 13 years old, after being detained for two days in Al-Masqubia, and with home confinement for a month permitting him to go to school with an escort, and imposing a financial bail of 1000 NIS..

On 10/3/2015 the Israeli Magistrate's Court in Jerusalem imposed home confinement on six Jerusalemite children from AlThawry neighborhood for a weak, they are (Ashraf Hani Ghaith(14 years old), Mohammed Younis Abed El Razeq(14 years old) , Mohammed Khaled Abed El Razeq(12 years old), MoatazShobaki(13 years old), Marwan Ellewat(14 years old), Mohammed EL Talhmy(15 years old), in addition to pay a finance bail of 500 NIS and a third party insurance of 5 thousand NIS.

3. Home Confinement

Home confinement was not enough for occupation, they impose two punishments on them at the same time. Those punishments are confinement and from their house, which means, the child spends the confinement period in another house away from the family house. This sort of punishment causes double suffer on child and his parents, where a judicial decision from the Israeli courts imposes home confinement on child and force him to spend this period in another house away of his neighbourhood, which makes a great burden on his family where they have to be with him, not to mention the huge sums of money they sign in case of breaching home confinement laws .

Home confinement for children violates the International Declaration of children's' rights of 1959 , and the Child's rights convention in 1989 , which the two articles of 3 and 39 provide that " No child shall be subjected to torture or any other cruel treatment , or cruel or inhuman or insult punishment , and not to forbid any child from his freedom in illegal , or arbitrary way and the arrest or dentition or imprisonment of the child shall be according to law , and it shall be as a final resort and for a shortest propriety period of time.

On 3/7/2017 the occupation forces arrested the child "Tareq Abu Khalil " 15 years old , cousin of the martyr Mohammed Abu Khdair , and assaulted on him brutally , hitting him causing jaw fractures and wounded his face (picture attached), and on 6/7/2014 the judge of Magistrates Court decided to release him and to be away from his house in Shaufat neighbourhood for 15 days to Beit Hanina neighbourhood , as well as home confinement for 9 days , and imposed a financial bail of 300 NIS , in addition to third party of 10 thousand NIS.

The US State Department spokesman "Jane Basaky", stated that we should start fast, transparent, credible investigation, and complete accountancy on any excessive use of force.

In addition, she said "we can confirm that TareqKhdair, who is an American citizen, is being arrested by the Israeli authorities in Jerusalem. An official from US General Consulate has visited him in Jerusalem yesterday.

She added: "We are deeply concerned when we saw reports, that he had been severally beaten while he was with the police, and strongly condemn any excessive use of force. We call to start a fast, transparent, credible and complete accountability for any excessive force.

She continued "We confirm our sense of deep concern because violent events are increasing, and we demand all parts to initiate calmness and protect innocents.

4. Impose Financial Penalties

Besides imposing home confinement on children, the occupation imposes an exorbitant fine, where the occupation forces the child's family "Sohaib Al A'war " from Jerusalem to pay finance fine of 18 thousand NIS in cash, and sign to pay another 65 thousand NIS in case of breaching home confinement laws.He was deported to his grandmother's house in Al MOkaber Mountain for 4 months, where he lives in Silwan.

The central court in Jerusalem has imposed deporting and home confinement on the child " Mahran Al Ja'abary, (12 years old) from Jerusalem , and imposed as well as deporting and home confinement on the child "Shady Al A'war" , 16 years old , to Al Mokaber Mountain until the trial, after paying financial bail of 3 thousand NIS.

Amjad Abu Asab, the Chairman of the Prisoners Family Committee in Jerusalem, confirms that the occupation imposes financial fines on Jerusalemites within the economic strangulation policy that imposed on the Palestinians in the city, clarifying that the Israeli public prosecution recently demanded the Central Court to impose exorbitant fines up to one million NIS, which requires for a serious stand of Human Rights, legal institutions and the United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights to stop the occupation's actions of this policy.